Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 04 Feb 2023 until 23:59 on Sunday 05 Feb 2023

Forecast Issued on Saturday 04 Feb 2023 at 02:01

Confidence: High confidence for the general story with a lot of dry weather over the next few days. Lower for the position of a weak weather front over the UK on Tuesday and Wednesday bringing cloud and patchy rain.

Headline for Saturday 04 Feb 2023: Cloudy and breezy. Spell of rain and summit snow late afternoon and early evening.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 04 Feb 2023

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
FOG	FOG				
Fog	Fog	Cloudy	Sleet	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
10%	10%	10%	30%	70%	30%

Forecast for Saturday 04 Feb 2023

Weather: Cloudy for most of the day with the odd spot of light rain and some fog on the tops, mainly over western fells. Eastern fells around Ullswater and east of Helvellyn may see a little brightness at times. Rain will arrive from the northwest from around mid to late afternoon, turning to snow for a time above 800m before clearing in the evening. Dry and clear for the rest of the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Ranging from 30% in the west to 60% in east.

Low cloud and visibility: Areas of low cloud and fog affecting western and central fells for most of the time above 600 or 700m but patchier cover further east. Below the cloud, mainly good visibility but poor in rain later, falling to a few km at times. Very poor on the higher tops for a time later in snow. Low cloud lifting and clearing away later in the evening.

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Forecast for Saturday 04 Feb 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	23/27 SW	25/31 SW	29/37 SW	30/37 SW	28/36 NW	29/36 NW	25/30 N
600	18/23 SW	20/26 SW	25/33 SW	25/33 SW	22/31 NW	20/28 NW	15/23 NW
300	6/19 SW	8/21 SW	11/27 SW	11/27 SW	11/27 NW	9/26 NW	4/19 NW
Valley	5/15 SW	8/19 SW	12/25 SW	9/23 SW	12/26 NW	7/23 NW	7/21 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	3/-3	2/-4	2/-5	2/-5	0/-7	-2/-10	-3/-10
600	4/-0	4/-1	4/-2	4/-2	2/-4	1/-6	-1/-7
300	6/4	6/3	6/3	6/3	4/0	3/-1	1/-1
Valley	8/6	7/5	8/5	8/5	6/3	5/2	4/1
Freezing Level*	1300m	1100m	1100m	1300m	900m	600m	500m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Feeling cold on the tops, especially up in the cloud and in exposure to the west or southwesterly winds with gusts of 30 to 40mph.

Forecast for Sunday 05 Feb 2023

Weather: Dry with clear skies and a frost overnight. High pressure over the area will bring a fine and dry day with long bright or sunny spells. High cloud may spread across from the west later. Feeling cold on the tops.

Maximum wind: North or Northwest 20mph gusts 30mph overnight but becoming light and variable during the morning.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 95%.

Low cloud and visibility: Excellent visibility with clear views of distant hills. No low cloud expected.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 2C to Plus 1C rising to 7C.
At 800m: Minus 4C rising to Minus 1C.
Freezing level: Frost in valleys at first, level rising to around 600m.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 3 February 2023 Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:40 Full report: The thaw continues at all levels. It was plus 5 degrees C and drizzling on the summit around midday. The vast majority of the Lakeland fells and paths up to, and including, summit level are now clear of snow and ice. The snow that remains is predominantly located above 850m in isolated spots and hollows, with the majority now above 900m, on north and east facing aspects. As such it is easily avoided and of little concern to walkers. Probably the only exceptions to this are the exits to both Striding and especially Swirral Edges. By exiting Striding Edge to the south there is now a virtually snow free route. Conversely, a steep bank of deep, unavoidable snow guards Swirral Edge's exit. There are steps cut into it but these have become icy as they have been compressed by walkers' boots & are resistant to the thaw. Although only a short section an ice axe is essential and crampons should be carried, in case the snow refreezes, to safely negotiate this snow bank as it is not a place to slip. Cornices (snow overhangs) exist above many steep north and east facing aspects – such as along Helvellyn's summit plateau. With the thaw these have weakened, reduced in size, cracked and some have already collapsed so please simply keep off the snow along any such edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. Despite the milder weather the summit daytime windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) remains below zero, so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment including a torch, map and compass are all essential to safely enjoy the fells. Temperature: plus 5.0 C. Maximum wind speed 27.9 mph, Wind chill: minus 1.6 C, Average wind speed: 21.4 mph.

Issued at: 02:01 on Sat 04 Feb 2023

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